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PATENT SPECIFICATION

DRAWINGS ATTACHED

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COMPLETE SPECIFICATION

A Package of Pellets and Apparatus for producing same

I, JEAN, AUGUSTIN BODET, a citizen of France, of 42, avenue du Maréchal Douglas Haig, Versailles (Seine-et-Oise), France, do hereby declare the invention, for which I pray that a patent may be granted to me, and the method by which it is to be performed, to be particularly described in and by the following statement:—

The present invention relates to packages of pellets or other solid bodies of small volume, and of any shape, such as pills, lozenges, tablets, candies, suppositories, capsules containing a liquid or even small doses of powder, etc., said solid bodies being designated hereinafter by the term "pellet".

The chief object of my invention is to provide a new or improved package.

According to the present invention there is provided a package of pellets comprising two sheets adhered to one another, at least one of the sheets being formed from a plastics material and deformed to produce recesses for the pellets, a marginal portion of the two sheets not being adhered to facilitate separation of the sheets for removal of the pellets, slots being formed in the marginal portion to define individual pulling flaps and said marginal portion having projections extending between the two sheets to space each of said flaps from the flap of the other sheet facing it.

The invention will become more readily understood from the following detailed description given merely by way of example with reference to the accompanying drawings in which:—

FIGURE 1 is a diagrammatic elevational view of one form of packaging apparatus for producing packages of pellets according to the invention;

FIGURE 2 shows one of the knives included in this device;

FIGURES 3 and 4 partly show, respectively in plan view and in side elevation, a package of pellets obtained by means of the apparatus of Figure 1.

[Price 4 6d.]

A continuous sheet 1, previously deformed to provide recesses 2, is applied against a rigid cylindrical drum 30 provided with housings 20 corresponding in position with recesses 2.

When this drum is made to rotate under a hopper 4 in such manner as to provide each of the recesses 2 with a pellet 5, the end wall 7 of the hopper allows only the pellets in the recesses to escape from the hopper.

These recesses are then closed by applying on the sheet 1 a strip 18, by passing said strip between the sheet 1, still held against drum 30, and a heated roller 19 pressed against this sheet or by glueing or again in any other desired manner.

In order to disengage from drum 30 the sheet provided with pellets 5 the sheet is cut longitudinally into as many strips as it may be desired by applying against the drum a rotating cutting knife 31 and discontinuous transverse cuts are formed in the sheet parallel to every row of pellets by means of knives 33 (Figures 1 and 2) provided with notches at 34 and carried by a roller 35 resiliently applied against drum 30.

Each of these cuts is disposed between two contiguous rows of pellets and comprises a terminal slot 22 (Figure 3) opening into one of the longitudinal edges of the strip that has been cut, and a succession of slots 32 (which may be in a form of portions of a straight line as illustrated or in that of mere dottings) separated from one another by small bridges 36 of plastics material corresponding to the notches 34 provided in knives 33.

Along the edges cut with slots 22, strip 18 is not adhered to sheet 1 over a width a so that every pair of slots 22 defines the ends of two flaps separated from each other in strip 18 and in sheet 1 respectively.

In order to disengage a pellet from the package, it is only necessary to hold the flap of strip 18 between the thumb and index finger of one hand, the flap of sheet 1 between the thumb and index finger of the other hand and

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